

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

“For the word of God is living and powerful,
and sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing even to the division of soul and spirit,
and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner
of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

(Hebrews 4:12)

1 THESSALONIANS

“Holiness in Light of Christ’s Return”

“That He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.”

(1 Thessalonians 3:13)

OUTLINE OF 1 THESSALONIANS

“Holiness in Light of Christ’s Return”

I. Personal Reflections *Chapters 1–3*

II. Practical Instructions *Chapters 4,5*

OUTLINE OF 1 THESSALONIANS

“Holiness in Light of Christ’s Return”

II. Practical Instructions *Chapters 4,5*

A. Life Before God and Man *(4:1–12)*

B. Death Encounter *(4:13–18)*

C. The Day of the Lord *(5:1–11)*

D. Life in the Local Church *(5:12–22)*

E. Conclusion *(5:23–28)*

DEATH ENCOUNTER

(1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren,
concerning those who have fallen asleep,
lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

DEATH ENCOUNTER

(1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again,
even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

DEATH ENCOUNTER

(1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. **16** For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

DEATH ENCOUNTER

(1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1. Contrast
(v 13)

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

Contrast presents Choices

2. Certainty

(v 14)

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again,
even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

Resurrection the Crux of Christianity

3. Comfort
(v 18)

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

“Better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for that is the end of all men; and the living will take it to heart. Sorrow is better than laughter, for by a sad countenance the heart is made better.”

(Ecclesiastes 7:2,3)

4. Coming
(vv 15–17)

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

4. Coming
(vv 15–17)

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

II. B. Death Encounter

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Contrast
Certainty
Comfort
Coming

“So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality ... ‘Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?’ The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15:54–57)